(b) the total reimbursement made by Government on such treatments, year-wise with the actual highest reimbursement made in a case in each of the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) As on 31st March, 2009, there were 231982 Central Government pensioners, 2845 ex-MPs, 12563 freedom fighters who have been issued pensioner CGHS cards. Central Government pensioners, freedom fighters, ex-MPs, ex-Governors etc. are entitled to cashless treatment facility in empanelled hospitals, if the beneficiary is duly referred to a private empanelled hospitals for treatment by the CGHS. No sub-category-wise break up especially as a VIP beneficiary is maintained by CGHS. The CGHS has spent following amounts on the treatment of pensioner beneficiaries:-

2007-08	Rs. 438.45 crores
2008-09	Rs. 498.87 crores
2009-10 (April-August, 2009)	Rs. 166.61 crores

The maximum reimbursement amount on a single VIP, in Delhi, during 2008-09 and 2009-10 are given below:-

2008-09	Rs. 10,44,109/-
2009-10	Rs. 65.95,896/-

Rules Governing CA firms

*175. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in the light of the Report of Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) that inquired into the stock market scam in 2001, had barred certain domestic and multinational Chartered Accountancy (CA) firms from being appointed as auditors by Banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether RBI has, in the recent past, lifted the said ban from some of the delinquent CA firms;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extant rules for governing services of multi-national CA firms who are eligible to provide in India, indicating revision therein, if any, carried out in the recent past?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had debarred two CA firms *viz.* M/s Lovelock and Lewes (L and L), the statutory auditors of erstwhile Global Trust Bank Ltd. during the years 2000-01 and 2001-02 and M/s Price Waterhouse and Co. (PWC), the statutory auditors of erstwhile Global Trust Bank Ltd. during the year 2002-03.

(c) and (d) Based on the representations received in August, 2007 from both PWC and L and L, RBI advised the banks that they may consider giving audit assignments to these firms

from April 1, 2008. However, after reporting of alleged irregularities on the part of auditors of M/s Satyam Computers, RBI have not approved appointment of PWC as statutory auditors in the scheduled commercial banks from the financial year 2009-10.

(e) The provisions of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 and the Regulations/Rules framed thereunder are applicable to members and firms of chartered accountants registered with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). The Act, ibid, does not provided for framing of rules or regulation for governing the services of multi-national accounting firms. Therefore, the multinational accounting firms are outside the purview of the ethical and regulatory framework of the ICAI.

Expansion of air services during the Eleventh Plan

*176. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expansion of air services during the Eleventh Plan is going on according to any road map or there are some hardships;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether priorities have been fixed in the Plan by expanding it to the entire nation;

(d) if so, the details of these priorities for the rest of the Plan period;

(e) whether services of all airlines have been included depending on their capacity;

(f) whether there is any high powered Committee to decide about it; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) In so far as expansion of air services, the Government has laid down route dispersal guidelines with a view to achieve a better regulation of Air Transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North-East region. It is, however, upto the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of route dispersal guidelines issued by Government.

(c) to (g): Does not arise.

Vacant posts in CHCs

*177. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of percentage of sanctioned posts of specialists lying vacant in various Community Health Centres (CHCs) throughout the country;